

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 EPAE-00 AID-05 CEQ-01
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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7091

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, TBIO, TATT, BR

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY SOUNDING OF USG SUPPORT FOR ECOLOGY PROGRAM
IN BRAZIL

1. DR. JOHN HAY, AMERICAN PROFESSOR AT DEPT. OF ECOLOGY, A PART OF THE BIOLOGY INSTITUTE OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF RIO (UFRJ), HAS REQUESTED CONGEN RIO'S ASSISTANCE IN EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF GETTING SHORT-TERM PROFESSOR AND/OR RESEARCHERS THROUGH SMITHSONIAN/PEACE CORPS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM. DR. HAY DISCUSSED ECOLOGY DEPT.'S PROGRAM, AND ITS PERSONNEL SITUATION, NOTING INCREASING DIFFICULTIES FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS OF GETTING FUNDING: VISAS FOR FOREIGN SPECIALISTS BUT ALSO STRESSING THAT UFRJ WAS AWARE OF THE NEED FOR SUCH TEMPORARY OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE FORMAL REQUEST IF A USG PROGRAM WERE FEASIBLE.

2. DR. HAY POINTED OUT RECRUITING AD IN SCIENCE MAGAZINE (4 NOV., 1977, P. 536) FOR SMITHSONIAN/PEACE CORPS PROGRAM, SAYING HE WOULD PARTICULARLY WANT SPECIALISTS IN FISHERIES AND MARINE SCIENCE, AND SOIL SCIENCE, UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM (REFERRED TO IN AD AS DEPT. S-5 AT SMITHSONIAN/PC
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OFFICES IN WASHINGTON). HE WOULD ALSO FIND VARIOUS OTHER ECOLOGY SPECIALTIES USEFUL. HE NOTED THAT UFRJ PROGRAM WAS STRUCTURED WITHIN BIOLOGY FACULTY, AND ALL FOUR OTHER BRAZILIAN ECOLOGY CURRICULA (UNICAMP, USP, MANAUS, PORTO ALEGRE) WERE SIMILARLY BASED IN BIOLOGY FACULTIES. NONETHELESS, INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS, CHEMISTS, AND BIOPHYSICISTS COULD ALL BE REACHED THROUGH THESE FACULTIES, SINCE NO ECOLOGY PROGRAMS

WERE YET AVAILABLE WITHIH THEIR DISCIPLINES.

3. CONGEN RIO SAID IT WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER THIS COULD BE
FITTED INTO
BASIC PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN BRAZIL, BUT EVEN IF NOT, FELT
THIS POSSIBILITY MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO NATIONAL ACADEMY

4. PEACE CORPS/BRAZIL HAS INFORMED EMBASSY AND CONGEN RIO THAT
THE ABOVE REQUEST DOES NOT RPT NOT FIT INTO THE CURRENT
PEACE CORPS PROGRAM STRUCTURE IN BRAZIL. MISSION,
HOWEVER, IS REPORTING THIS INQUIRY TO WASHINGTON WITH REQUEST THAT
IT BE DISSEMINATED TO OTHER INTERESTED USG AGENCIES
(PARA 3) AND PERHAPS TO PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS (UNIVERSITIES,
FOUNDATIONS, ETC.) AS WELL. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE
ANY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST WHICH WE COULD CONVEY
TO DR. HAY, GENERATING FORMAL REQUEST ON BASIS OF BETTER
KNOWLEDGE OF PROGRAM POSSIBILITIES.
JOHNSON

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